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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: GURUPRASAD G. RAO ET AL.

Filed: JULY 13, 2001

For: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR CONSTRAINT
CHARACTERIZATION WITH DEGRADATION OPTIONS

Serial No.: 09/904,630

Group Art Unit: 2123

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Atty Dkt: SIME:002

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.8, I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date below:

3-19-03 Date
Marty Walker Name

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

MAR 28 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Concurrently with this paper, the Applicant files a Request for Drawing Change (to correct a typographical error in FIG. 3), and Submission of Formal Drawings.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The rewritten clean versions of all the specification changes are provided below.
Attached at the end of this paper is an Appendix providing an indication of the changes relative to the prior version of the specification, as now required by Rule 121.